

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 SCCT-01 /070 W

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O 172235Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3138

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 6917

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: MRS. PERON READS MODERATE SPEECH

REF: BA-6914

1. MRS. PERON HAS JUST ADDRESSED CROWD OF SOME 50 THOUSAND PERSONS IN PLAZA DE MAYO. AS EXPECTED, SHE READ SPEECH AND IT FOLLOWED LINES INDICATED TO US EARLIER (SEE REFTEL). SHE APPEALED TO MEMORY OF HER HUSBAND WHO HAD STARTED MOVEMENT THIRTY YEARS BEFORE AND CALLED ON PERONISTS TO CARRY OUT HIS THOUGHTS AND PROJECTS. SHE SAID PERONIST MAJORITY HAD CHANGED COURSE OF NATION AND COULD NOT BE IGNORED, BUT AT SAME TIME SHE PROMISED DIALOGUE WITH ALL REPRESENTATIVE FORCES IN KEEPING WITH SYSTEM OF POLITICAL PLURALISM TO WHICH ARGENTINA DEDICATED.

2. MRS. PERON THEN PROMISED ALL-OUT FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISTS, INCLUDING "THOSE WHO USE NAME OF PERONISM" --I.E. MONTONEROS. INDEED, SHE PROMISED TO ERADICATE ALL ILLS, FROM TERRORISM TO IMMORALITY.

3. CGT LEADERS HAD PREVIOUSLY AGREED WITH HER THAT THERE WOULD BE

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NO WAGE INCREASES NOW. THUS, SHE URGED, PRICES MUST ALSO BE KEPT

DOWN.

4. IN OBVIOUS APPEAL TO ANTI-VERTICALISTAS, SHE CALLED FOR RECONCILIATION AND UNITY AMONG ALL PERONISTS.

5. SHE ENDED BY LAUDING ARMED FORCES AND EXPRESSING PERONISM'S SOLIDARITY WITH THEM.

6. DEMONSTRATION WAS WELL ORGANIZED AND MEDIA COVERAGE WELL ORCHESTRATED. AS OF 1730 BUENOS AIRES TIME, CROWD IS DISPERSING PEACEFULLY. WITH EXCEPTION OF EXPLOSION SEVERAL SMALL NOISE BOMBS IN PLAZA BEFORE FULL CROWD HAD GATHERED (WHICH REPORTEDLY CAUSED NO CASUALTIES), NO INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO EMBASSY.

6. COMMENT: CURIOUSLY, NEITHER INTERIOR MINISTER ROBLEDO NOR UOM LEADER LORENZO MIGUEL, HER PRINCIPAL VERTICALISTA SUPPORTERS, WERE VISIBLE ON TV (THOUGH LATTER AT LEAST WAS DEFINITELY PRESENT). LUDER, HOWEVER, TYPICALLY SOLEMN STOOD BEHIND HER. CAFIERO WAS ALSO IN EVIDENCE, AS WAS SECOND VICE PRESIDENT OF PERONIST PARTY, JOSE BAEZ, AND CGT LEADER CASILDO HERRERAS.

7. MRS. PERON APPEARED TODAY FROM THE TV VANTAGE POINT STILL VERY THIN, BUT VIGOROUS. SHE WAS WEARING A NEW HAIR STYLE (OR WIG?) WHICH CHANGED SOMEWHAT HER APPEARANCE. HER VOICE WAS SHRILL AND CRACKED, BUT HER DELIVERY WAS STRONG. THERE WERE TWO UNIDENTIFIED WOMEN ON HER IMMEDIATE RIGHT AND LEFT-- ONE IN A T SHIRT. THE USUAL ENTOURAGE WERE NOT MUCH IN EVIDENCE. THE CROWD WAS NOISY BUT NOT SPONTANEOUS. THE WEEKEND WILL GIVE US A CHANCE TO ANALYZE THE REACTION TO HER SPEECH- WHICH COULD BE ONE OF DISAPPOINTMENT OVER NO WAGE INCREASES.
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